

Paragraphs [0005], [0015], [0017], [0018], [0030] have been rewritten as follows:

Q₁ [0005] A system and method for addressing the above problems and other problems may be provided by using a system for monitoring a utility substation. The system for monitoring a utility substation includes monitoring equipment, connected to a utility substation, for monitoring operating conditions of the utility substation. The monitoring equipment is connected to an application service provider through a first communication network. One or more network interface devices are connected to the application service provider by a second communication network, which may be the same communication network as the first communication network. The one or more network interface devices receive notification of operating conditions of the utility substation monitored by the monitoring equipment through the application service provider.

Q₂ [0015] One or more servers 106 may control the communications network 102, and may generally serve as a communications link between the staff 104, the substations 100, and other entities or systems. The servers 106 may comprise any networking platform running any suitable operating system or network protocol. The servers 106 may be or include, for instance, workstations running the Microsoft WindowsTM NTTM, WindowsTM 2000, UnixTM, LinuxTM, XenixTM, IBM AIXTM, Hewlett-Packard UXTM, Novell NetwareTM, Sun Microsystems SolarisTM, OS/2TM, BeOSTM, MachTM, ApacheTM, OpenStepTM or other operating system or platform. In the embodiments described herein, the servers 106 are described as performing certain tasks, however it should be understood that some or all of these tasks may be performed by network interface devices 126 operated at the substations 100 or by the client devices 104, or by other entities.

Q₃ [0017] Substation network interface devices 126 at the substation 100 and the client devices 104 may be or include, for instance, personal computers running the Microsoft WindowsTM 95, 98, MilleniumTM, NTTM, 2000 or XPTM, WindowsTMCETM, PalmOSTM, UnixTM, Linux, SolarisTM, OS/2TM, BeOSTM, MacOSTM, VAX VMS or other operating system or

platform. Each network interface device 126 may include a microprocessor such as an Intel x86-based or Advanced Micro Devices x86-compatible device, a Motorola 68K or PowerPC™ device, a MIPS, Hewlett-Packard Precision™, or Digital Equipment Corp. Alpha™ RISC processor, a microcontroller or other general or special purpose device operating under programmed control. Each network interface device 126 may furthermore include electronic memory such as RAM (random access memory) or EPROM (electronically programmable read only memory), storage such as a hard drive, CDROM or rewritable CDROM or other magnetic, optical or other media, and other associated components connected over an electronic bus, as will be appreciated by persons skilled in the art.

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[0018] The substations 100, servers 106, and client devices 104 may communicate with one another using any number of systems. For example, they may send or receive messages to one another using Internet Protocol (IP) or Internet Protocol Next Generation (IPng) code or data, Hyper-text Markup Language (HTML), Dynamic HTML, Extensible Markup Language (XML), Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL), Document Style Semantics and Specification Language (DSSSL), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL), Wireless Markup Language (WML), Java™, Jini™, C, C++, Perl, UNIX Shell, Visual Basic™ or Visual Basic Script, Virtual Reality Markup Language (VRML), ColdFusion™, Common Gateway Interface (CGI), servlets, peer-to-peer networking code or other compilers, assemblers, interpreters or other computer languages or platforms. In a preferred embodiment, the various entities communicate with one another using an Internet-based language that employs simple and familiar interface devices, such as a HTML-based language operating through Internet software such as Microsoft's Explorer™.

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[0030] In one embodiment of the invention, when a fault is detected, the servers 106 notify the appropriate members of the personnel operating the client devices 104 through network 102. In order to provide instant notification of a fault, the servers 106 may notify client devices 104, such as a pager 108 or cellular telephone monitored by maintenance personnel. By using such an instant notification system, the personnel may attend other activities without

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having to constantly monitor the operation of the system to quickly detect faults. In addition, a signal may be transmitted to other client devices 104 being operated by other personnel, and the substation network interface devices 126 so as to notify them that a fault has occurred. In one embodiment, such a signal may trigger a visual alert to display or cause an audible alarm to sound. Such a signal may provide visual and audible warnings on an internet web browser on the client devices 104 and the substation network interface devices 126. Once notified, maintenance personnel can quickly pinpoint the substation raising the alarm by referring to, for example, an internet-based web browser utility programmed to display the location and details of the alarm in a user interface. In one embodiment, the user interface may include a plurality of interactive screens that allow the personnel to view various operating conditions of the substations, and which may be programmed to respond to the user's input to cause the server 106 to query the substations network interface devices 126 to obtain further operating conditions from the monitoring devices.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth below. The claims are in "clean form" per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c). Applicant has also included the Appendix in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), showing the additions and deletions, which are indicated by strikethrough, to the amended claims.

Claims 17-21 and 22 have been rewritten as follows:

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17. (Once amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of incorporating an expertise database into at least one of the one or more network interface devices and the application service provider.